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6 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
7 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**  
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9 Jason Crews,

10 Plaintiff,

11 v.

12 Bankers Life Advisory Services  
13 Incorporated, et al.,

14 Defendants.

No. CV-23-02658-PHX-SMB

**ORDER SETTING RULE 16 CASE  
MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE**

15 Pursuant to Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a Telephonic Case  
16 Management Conference is set for **April 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. (15 minutes allowed)**.  
17 The parties will receive dial-in instructions for connecting to the teleconference via  
18 electronic mail prior to the hearing. In preparation for this Case Management  
19 Conference, it is hereby ordered as follows:

20 A. Rule 26(f) Meeting and Case Management Report.

21 The parties are directed to meet and confer at least 10 days before the Case  
22 Management Conference as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f). At this  
23 meeting the parties shall develop a joint Case Management Report which contains the  
24 information called for in section B below.

25 B. Joint Case Management Report.

26 The parties' Joint Case Management Report shall contain the following  
27 information in separately numbered paragraphs.

28 1. The parties who attended the Rule 26(f) meeting and assisted in developing

1 the Case Management Report;

2 2. A list of the parties in the case, including any parent corporations or entities  
3 (for recusal purposes);

4 3. A short statement of the nature of the case (3 pages or less);

5 4. The jurisdictional basis for the case, describing the basis for jurisdiction  
6 (see the accompanying footnote) and citing specific jurisdictional statutes;<sup>1</sup>

7 5. Any parties which have not been served and an explanation of why they  
8 have not been served, and any parties which have been served but have not answered or  
9 otherwise appeared;

10 6. A statement of whether any party expects to add additional parties to the  
11 case or otherwise to amend pleadings (the Court will set a deadline at the Case  
12 Management Conference for joining parties and amending pleadings);

13 7. A listing of contemplated motions and a statement of the issues to be  
14 decided by these motions (including motions under Federal Rules of Evidence 702, 703,  
15 704, and 705);

16 8. Whether the case is suitable for reference to a United States Magistrate  
17 Judge for a settlement conference or trial;

18 9. The status of related cases pending before other courts or other judges of  
19 this Court;

20 10. A discussion of any issues relating to preservation, disclosure, or discovery

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22 <sup>1</sup> If jurisdiction is based on diversity of citizenship, the report shall include a statement of  
23 the citizenship of every party and a description of the amount in dispute. *See* 28 U.S.C.  
24 §1332. The parties are reminded that (1) a corporation is a citizen of the state where it is  
25 incorporated and the state of its principal place of business, and (2) partnerships and  
26 limited liability companies are citizens of every state in which one of their partners or  
27 members resides. *See* 28 U.S.C. §1332(c); *Indus. Tectonics v. Aero Alloy*, 912 F.2d  
28 1090, 1092 (9th Cir. 1990); *Belleville Catering Co. v. Champaign Market Place, L.L.C.*,  
350 F.3d 691, 692 (7th Cir. 2003). The parties are further reminded that the use of  
fictitious parties (“John Doe” or “ABC Corporation”) “casts no magical spell on a  
complaint otherwise lacking in diversity jurisdiction.” *Fifty Assocs. v. Prudential Ins.*  
*Co. of Am.*, 446 F.2d 1187, 1191 (9th Cir. 1970) (citations omitted).

1 of electronically stored information, including the parties' preservation of electronically  
2 stored information and the form or forms in which it will be produced (*see*  
3 Rules 16(b)(3), 26(f)(3));

4 11. A discussion of any issues relating to claims of privilege or work product  
5 (*see* Rules 16(b)(3), 26(f)(3));

6 12. A discussion of whether an order under Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) is  
7 warranted in this case;

8 13. A discussion of necessary discovery. This discussion should take into  
9 account the December 1, 2015 amendments to Rule 26(b)(1), and should include:

10 a. The extent, nature, and location of discovery anticipated by the  
11 parties and why it is proportional to the needs of the case;

12 b. Suggested changes, if any, to the discovery limitations imposed by  
13 the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;

14 c. The number of hours permitted for each deposition. The parties  
15 should consider whether a total number of depositions hours should be set in the case,  
16 such as 20 total hours for Plaintiffs and 20 total hours for Defendants. Such overall time  
17 limits have the advantage of providing an incentive for each side to be as efficient as  
18 possible in each deposition, while also allowing parties to allocate time among witnesses  
19 depending on the importance and complexity of subjects to be covered with the  
20 witnesses.

21 14. Proposed specific dates for each of the following (deadlines should fall on a  
22 Friday unless impracticable):

23 a. A deadline for the completion of fact discovery;

24 b. Dates for full and complete expert disclosures under Federal Rule of  
25 Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(A)-(C);

26 c. A deadline for completion of all expert depositions;

27 d. A date by which the parties shall have engaged in face-to-face good  
28 faith settlement talks;

1 e. A deadline for filing dispositive motions.

2 15. Whether a jury trial has been requested and whether the request for a jury  
3 trial is contested (if the request is contested, briefly set forth the reasons);

4 16. The prospects for settlement, including any request of the Court for  
5 assistance in settlement efforts; and

6 17. Any other matters that will aid the Court and parties in resolving this case  
7 in a just, speedy, and inexpensive manner as required by Federal Rule of Civil  
8 Procedure 1.

9 The parties shall jointly file the Case Management Report with the Clerk not less  
10 than seven days before the Case Management Conference. It is the responsibility of  
11 Plaintiff(s) to initiate the Rule 26(f) meeting and preparation of the joint Case  
12 Management Report. Defendant(s) shall promptly and cooperatively participate in the  
13 Rule 26(f) meeting and assist in preparation of the Case Management Report.

14 C. Case Management Order.

15 The Court directs counsel and any unrepresented parties to Federal Rule of Civil  
16 Procedure 16 for the objectives of the Case Management Conference. Counsel who will  
17 be responsible for trial of the lawsuit for each party, and any party that is not represented  
18 by counsel, shall appear and participate in the Case Management Conference and shall  
19 have authority to enter into stipulations regarding all matters that may be discussed.  
20 A continuance of the Case Management Conference will be granted only for good cause.

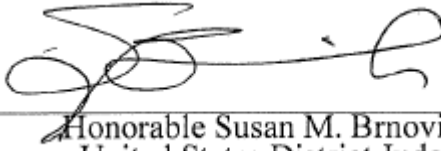
21 As a result of the Case Management Conference, the Court will enter a Case  
22 Management Order. The Court fully intends to enforce the deadlines in the Case  
23 Management Order. The parties should plan their litigation activities accordingly.

24 D. Other Matters.

25 The parties are expected to comply fully with the Federal and Local Rules of Civil  
26 Procedure and to minimize the expense of discovery. The parties should ensure that all  
27 filings comply with Local Rules of Civil Procedure 7.1 and 7.2. In addition, in all filings,  
28 citations in support of any assertion in the text shall be included in the text, not in

1 footnotes. The Clerk of the Court shall send copies of this order to all counsel of record  
2 and to any unrepresented parties.

3 Dated this 23rd day of February, 2024.

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7 Honorable Susan M. Brnovich  
8 United States District Judge  
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